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August 27, 2001

Dear Harold,

You must forgive me for not having gotten down to Maryland. I've run out of money, completely, but also of time. I will reappear as soon as I can.

I want to give you acknowledgment in my text of an interview which you write about in your book Coup d'Etat, Part II. It's on p. 19, and it is about your breakfast (it was your birthday) with a friend of Bobby Kennedy's. You ask him how Kennedy could have said he had "seen everything." The man, whom you describe as also having known Garrison, says "Bobby wants to live."

You ask for "amplification" and the man adds that famous line, "There are already too many guns between Bobby and the White House."

"Whose guns?" you ask.

"He inferred those of CIA," you write.

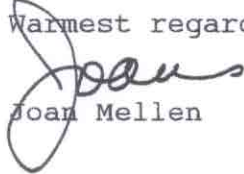
Harold, I need the NAME of your source. It's too late now for anything but the open and undisguised truth, where we have it. We don't always have it, of course. This story loses its power without that name.

WHO WAS IT? You write that later that morning you took the person into Garrison's office and he told Garrison the same story. The date appears to be April 1968. It's the week after the RFK campaign speech when he endorsed the Warren Report. (March 25, 1968).

Without the name of this person, the story is lost, Harold.

So: much, much obliged. I've enclosed an envelope. If it's easier, call me collect. It will be brief.

Warmest regards,


Joan Mellen

*p.s. I know that Mark Lane has stolen this quote and re-wrote it as a RFK statement:
"there are guns between me and the White House."*